

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

Corner of South Temple and East Temple Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Forrest G. Whitney - Business Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES:

(In Advance.)  
By Mail, per year, \$5.00  
By Carrier, per year, \$5.00  
Semi-Weekly, per year, \$2.00  
Saturday News, per year, \$2.00

Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.

Address all business communications and all remittances to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered as second class matter according to Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, APRIL 14, 1910.

READING OF NEWSPAPERS.

It has been claimed that certain persons, or that all persons at certain times, should not read the daily newspaper.

The question, should young girls read the daily newspaper? was once discussed by a convention of the National Educational Association by the commissioner, the late William T. Harris, and was by him answered with a strong and frank affirmative. And we think so highly of his ingenuity, breadth, ability, learning and common sense, as to feel that his position on this question is unassailable.

According to an Eastern exchange, a few days before the beginning of Lent, a clergyman, of the Episcopal church in New York, addressed his parishioners in this manner: "I would advise you all to do without the newspapers during the Lenten period and to replace their scandals and masses of ill-assorted information with more edifying works." These remarks were called to the attention of the clergyman's superior in the church. He was broad minded and progressive enough to realize that the newspaper of today is not a luxury, but a necessity. He promptly said: "I certainly would not advise my parishioners not to read the newspapers during Lent. Reading newspapers is like eating; we cannot do without either. I believe such advice is ridiculous."

It may be true that some papers prefer to print the worst side of humanity and to magnify the faults of mankind. Such papers parade the reports of scandalous and immoral happenings, while the space they give to uplifting sentiments, and to impartial comments and fair arguments, is relatively meager; but even in such papers, a selection can be made by most people, and the worse features ignored.

With the young and inexperienced, however, the case is different. Those papers that incline to the sensational and criminal phases of news and even parade these items in padded editorial comment; and when the daily news does not supply enough suggestions, those papers whose editorial policy is to invent or magnify happenings into the semblance of wrong-doing, or to dig from records the most sordid accounts of affairs long past and forgotten with the express purpose of finding something of evil in them—we submit that such a paper is unfit for the home wherein virtue and right conduct are the paramount endeavor of the members of the household.

People should exercise care in the selection of a daily paper or of weekly journals. The constant suggestion that the world contains more evil than good, that certain classes of people are of criminal tendency, and that their honored leaders are worse than thugs and robbers—all such iterations of slander produce their effect upon the inwary and unsuspecting. That effect is to degrade youthful ideals of man and woman and to provide personal uses for one's own wrong-doing by the argument that many other people do worse.

All people should read the newspaper; but all should exercise care as to the character and aims of the paper they put into their homes.

## ROME AGAINST ROOSEVELT.

A great deal of conjecture has been indulged in regarding the Roosevelt-Vatican incident. It has been explained that no one who goes to the Quirinal first can obtain an audience at the Vatican except by observing certain formalities; also that Mr. Roosevelt could not be received unless he would give certain promises regarding his movements while in Rome. Cardinal Merry del Val is quoted as having said that "Mr. Roosevelt might have gone to an Episcopalian, a Presbyterian, or any other church, except a Methodist, and delivered an address there, and he would have been received by the pope, even on the same day. But he could not be received when it was suspected that after the audience he intended to go to the Methodist church in Rome, which is carrying on a most offensive campaign of calumny and detraction against the pontiff."

But according to a dispatch from Rome, dated April 12, there must be reasons, entirely hidden to the public, why Mr. Roosevelt is persona non grata at the Vatican. If that dispatch is authentic, and there is no reason to assume the contrary, it conveys the impression that the pope entertains anything but kindly feelings for the distinguished traveler.

The dispatch referred to says that an abbot, Father Janssens, of the Benedictines, went to see Mr. Roosevelt, and on not finding him at home, left a card in which he complimented him on account of distinguished services rendered the Catholic church and the Benedictine order, and expressed the hope that he would soon resume his glorious career as president. As soon as this became known the Vatican disowned all responsibility for the sentiments expressed by the abbot. "The holy father," the Vatican statement said, "has highly disapproved of Father Janssens' initiative towards Mr. Roosevelt, as such act of his evidently lends itself to an interpretation offensive to the Holy Father, Father

Janssens acted through his own impulse, without any authorization from anyone whatever." But the statement is not confined to a correction of the impression that the abbot spoke for the Vatican. It goes out of its way to almost insult Mr. Roosevelt when it adds that "it did not wish Mr. Roosevelt to bracket the pope with other more or less royal personages he will boast of having hunted in Europe after his African hunt."

Well may the question be asked: "What does that mean?" What can it mean? Did the pope see that statement before it was published? We cannot understand why the Vatican should not be glad to have the incident closed and forgotten without a parting shot the echo of which must necessarily reverberate throughout the world and cause many conjectures, many comments. At present the politeness of the abbot and especially his sentiments regarding the future political career of Mr. Roosevelt, can hardly be regarded as anything but a convenient introduction to the somewhat unexpected declaration that the Vatican does not share the views of the abbot regarding the ex-President. But should ecclesiastical Rome express any views at all on a subject that concerns only Americans?

## SUCCESS TO THE WOOLEN MILLS.

The city of Provo is to be congratulated on the opening of the Woollen mills, which event seems to be assured in the very near future. And we hope that when the plant again is started, the people will give to it the patronage needed to keep it going and flourishing. For factories and pay rolls build up cities. No city can exist for any length of time on hotels and office buildings alone. Employment in the industries that produce the necessities and comforts of life is what builds up cities and states. The enterprising citizens who have undertaken to start up the Provo woollen mills again deserve the support of all who are interested in the building up of Utah. We hope they will obtain it and that they will be successful. And we hope that the State may grow in home industries as well as in everything else that is good and laudable. The material is here for the production of everything needed for the sustenance and comfort of life. The intelligence to utilize the materials is also here. Let us go back to first principles and talk home industry.

## AMERICANA.

The March number of Americana magazine contains chapters XVII and XVIII of History of the Mormon Church, by President B. H. Roberts. In the first of these chapters the author tells of "the coming of Sidney Rigdon," and in the second of "the exodus from the State of New York to Ohio." Both are intensely interesting and give evidence of exhaustive and painstaking research.

President Roberts shows conclusively that there is absolutely no historical foundation for the allegation that the Book of Mormon is Sidney Rigdon's version of the Spaulding manuscript, or that Sidney Rigdon had anything whatever to do with the bringing forth of that book. He quotes the testimony of John W. Rigdon, in a manuscript in the historian's office. John Rigdon says that in 1883 he determined to put the question to his father, "You have been charged," he said, "with writing that book and giving it to Joseph Smith to introduce to the world. You have always told me one story; that you never saw the book until it was presented to you by Parley P. Pratt and Oliver Cowdery; and all you ever knew of the origin of that book was what they told you and what Joseph Smith and the witnesses who claimed to have seen the plates told you. Is this true? If so, all right; if it is not, you owe it to me and your family to tell it. You are an old man and you will soon pass away, and I wish to know if Joseph Smith, in your intimacy with him for fourteen years, has not said something to you that led you to believe he obtained that book in some other way than what he had told you. Give me all you know about it, that I may know the truth."

To this appeal Mr. Rigdon with uplifted hand and tears in his eyes replied: "My son, I can swear before high heaven that what I have told you about the origin of that book is true." He added that "Mormonism" is true, "that Joseph Smith was a prophet, and this world would find it out some day." This disposes entirely of the theory that traces the Book of Mormon to the Spaulding manuscript through Sidney Rigdon. There was no reason why Mr. Rigdon, in 1883, should have repeated a falsehood about that book. There was every reason why he should have told the truth on that occasion, and his testimony must be accepted as final.

This article is illustrated with excellent portraits of Sidney Rigdon and a view of the Johnson home at Hiram, Portage Co., Ohio, where the Prophet lived 1832-3.

There are many other good articles in this number of the Americana.

"Eminent men: Dr. Edward Goodrich Acheson; Inventor," by the editor; "Beauregard, the Country of La Ronce Sainte Anne," Alice Phoebe Eldridge; "Mountain Life in the Virginias," Little McClung; Captain Peter Hogg; Della A. McCulloch; "Las Cruces," P. E. McClenahan; "An Indian Payment," Crockett McElroy; "The Burning of Chambersburg," Elizabeth McClenahan; "Heraldic Visitation of the Provinces," Viscount de Fronsac, and "The Madrid Earthquake Country," Raymond S. Spears.

## AN HISTORICAL PAGEANT.

The "News" is in receipt of the official program of an historical pageant that will be held at the ancient city of Chester, England, from July 15 to 23, this year, under royal patronage. The idea is to reproduce the history of the city, or rather a few important events selected from an abundance of historical material, in striking tableaux and pageants. There will be 2,000 performers, in gorgeous costumes. There will be music and song and stately dances.

The following episodes have been selected: "Agricola returns to Deva (Chester) after defeating Ordovices," A. D. 78; "King Edgar on his imperial progress, with Queen Elfrida, receives the homage of tributary princes," A. D. 973; "Hugh Lupus, with St. Anselm, founds the Abbey of St. Werburgh," A. D. 1003; "Archbishop Baldwin preaches the crusade at Chester," A. D. 1183; "Prince Edward, first royal earl of Chester, and Princess Eleanor, visit Chester," A. D. 1256; "Richard II. is brought a prisoner to Chester by Henry Bolingbroke," A. D. 1399; "King James I. visits Chester," A. D. 1617. "The midsummer revels," and, "Siege of Chester and visit of King Charles I." A. D. 1645. In addition to these historical pageants there will be fireworks displays, concerts, balls, children's plays and a battle of flowers.

The affair is under the management of the Baring Bros., and we have no doubt that it will be one worth while attending. The British people, when they undertake anything of this kind, do it right and without braggadocio. A great number of people from the Western states of this country, as well as from all over the Union, go to Europe every year, and many will, undoubtedly go this year. If they can, they should make it convenient to attend this spectacular and educational reproduction of history.

This is the year of the passion play at Oberammergau, and we believe there will be an American art exhibition at Berlin, so Europe will offer many attractions this year, in addition to those that are always there.

Wear no man's collar, except linen ones.

Remember, April showers bring May flowers.

The friend of the trusts is the enemy of mankind.

When a man disappears appearances are against him.

No whisky selling near the grounds of the University.

Time alone can tell who is the lucky man at a wedding.

A really lucky man rarely has much to say about his luck.

## NEW NEWS OF YESTERDAY

### HOW TELEGRAPH MESSAGES CAME TO BE READ BY SOUND.

By J. E. Edwards.

This daily series of anecdotes and incidents that throw new, interesting and frequently dramatic light on famous events and personalities of the past must be read by all who are interested in the history of the world. Each anecdote or incident is fresh from Mr. Edwards' notebook, and either in whole or in part, it constitutes new news of yesterday, gathered from the man who made the news—the history—or from a equally authoritative source. As important contributions of the "Human Interest" sort of American history, these articles have a distinctive value all their own.

Ben. Cornell is known in history as the father of Cornell university, as one of the men who helped to build the telegraph line, and as an ardent organizer of telegraph systems in the early days, being instrumental in the formation of the now famous Western Union Telegraph company. His son, Alonzo C. Cornell, became ultimately vice president of the Western Union and governor of New York state—high commercial and political honors. Yet he once confessed to me that he felt he should be credited with the additional honor of having made the discovery that telegraph messages could be read by ear; and he seemed to take more pride in his part in bringing this about than he did in any of his other achievements. "I was trained as a telegraph operator," said Mr. Cornell, in telling me the story. "I suppose I took to telegraphy naturally because of my father's deep and large interests in the then new mode of communication. Any way, I learned the Morse key easily, and I was, in fact, very fond of telegraphing from both the practical and the scientific standpoints. I can say without boasting that in my day I was regarded as one of the best operators in all New York state. That was when all messages were received in dots and dashes on tape, and from this tape we transcribed the messages into English. Because of the tape, it was impossible to send messages with anything like the speed of the present day. One afternoon, some time in the early fifties, when I was stationed at Albany, N. Y., there was an unusual rush of newspaper dispatches—I was in charge of the press key—and in the midst of the task of receiving them I found to my consternation that I was out of tape. Before taking my seat before the key I had neglected to replenish the tape reel. There was a bountiful supply of tape in the cellar of the building, but it was a long trip down—there were no elevators in those days—and I knew that to go there I would waste precious time. And there were those anxious newspaper men hanging over my shoulder. "Suddenly, as I fished about mentally for the quickest way out of my dilemma, this thought popped into my head: 'You don't need any tape. Half the time you don't look at it when the dispatches are coming in. You just write them out. You trust to your ears to tell what the instrument says. Why not do so now?' Instantly, I determined to see whether or not I could take the dispatches by sound alone. "I put my fingers on the key and broke in on New York, whence the dispatches were coming. 'Send me rather slowly and very distinctly,' I asked the man at the other end of the wire. He at once began to do so—not without some curiosity as to my reason, I found out later. But I didn't think of that at the time, for I was glowing all over with the knowledge that I could write out the dispatches as they came, then correctly—for they made sense—by simply listening to the sounds that the key made. "I continued taking the dispatches to the very end. Then the New York operator called me: 'What are you doing up there?' he asked. 'Why did you want me to send slowly and distinctly?' "I answered that I had said goodbye to the telegraph tape forever, and told him of the discovery I had made. He was immediately interested. 'Send me slowly and very distinctly fifteen or twenty words, and I'll see whether or not I can do the same thing,' he requested. "I did so, full of confidence, and a little later there came to me this message: 'I've done it, too. Some of the other boys also say they can. I predict that within a month there won't be an inch of tape used in the New York office.' "Years later," added Mr. Cornell, "I was told that about the time that I discovered for myself a new and revolutionary method of receiving telegraph messages, the same method was discovered by an operator in the main office in Pittsburgh, Pa. I have no doubt that this is true. Sooner or later, the discovery was bound to be made not only in one but several offices. But I have always felt that I was the first to make the discovery and should be credited with it in telegraphic history."

## PROGRESS IN THE SOUTH.

Waterbury American.

There is no disputing the reality of the South's prosperity. The Manufacturers' Record presents an imposing array of building contracts for Dixie. Atlanta is going to have a \$1,500,000 office building; Tampa is to have one worth \$200,000; San Antonio one at \$500,000, and Houston one at \$400,000. Richmond is to have a \$250,000 addition to its best hotel, and Lexington, Ky. (which needs it) is raising a new hotel to cost \$300,000. Birmingham and Louisville are to have new Young Men's Christian association buildings at \$250,000 each, and Little Rock is equipping itself with a new court house. The Southern railway is preparing to spend \$6,000,000 on improvements and the Chesapeake and Ohio is to follow suit with \$5,000,000. About all there is left of the South's depression is a few old-fashioned cotton gins. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" show.

## THE STATE NEEDS HIS KIND.

Providence Journal.

As the story goes, District Attorney William A. Blakeley of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, was one time ago informed that he might be the next Republican candidate for Governor if he were to abandon the anti-trust prosecutions in Pittsburgh. Against this flattering temptation, however, the district attorney was proof. His present office, he intimated, reasonably satisfied his political ambitions. But mark the event with nearly 100 alleged wrongdoers indicted in the last three weeks, Mr. Blakeley in a fair way of reaching the office of Governor after all. The people of western Pennsylvania appreciate his activity and are inclined to demand his elevation to the chief magistracy. The lesson is as old as the hills. The man who does his duty to the best of his ability is the one who goes farthest in the end.

Tact is the art of side stepping and concealing the stepping.

The baseball fans are beginning to fan the baseball flame.

The man who has money to burn will never set North river on fire.

In Vienna Colonel Roosevelt will be the looked upon and not a looker-on.

Every time Mr. Jack Johnson starts training his train gets off the track.

Of his interviews with Colonel Roosevelt Gifford Pinchot speaks only with his eyes.

Whether one should speak of a man as he finds him depends on how he finds him.

Is it better to have loved your enemies and lost than never to have loved at all?

Captain Osborn still believes in Dr. Cook. Under the Constitution a man is entitled to his belief.

When Weston passed through Cleveland it is a mathematical certainty that he walked up Euclid avenue.

The weather man can always raise a storm by predicting bad weather and having the prediction fulfilled.

Mr. Bryan's letter that was read at the Jefferson-day banquet in Washington seems to have created some stir.

Governor Patterson was as prompt in pardoning the slayer of Senator Carmack as Buck Farnshaw was in suppressing the riot.

Cold storage has the same effect on good resolutions that it has on eggs—soon makes them stale and unfit for use.

Uncle Jesse Knight has bought the Provo woollen mills. May they weave as sure as those of the gods grind fine, and faster. Good luck to him!

Senator La Follette was not very happy in his comparison of the present administration with that of Mr. Roosevelt. At times one wonders if Senator La Follette is very happy except when miserable.

## Salt Lake Theatre

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Three Nights and Saturday Matinee.

Commencing Thursday April 14.

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Matinee Prices—50c, 75c, 1.00.

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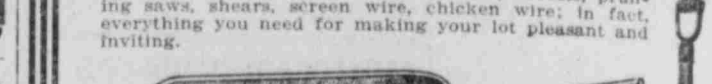
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